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| APPLICATION NO.                | FILING DATE                 | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |  |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|--|
| 10/541,431                     | 07/05/2005                  | Ermanno Filippi      | 9526-60 (172347)    | 6386             |  |
| 30448<br>AKERMAN SE            | 7590 01/25/201<br>ENTERFITT | 1                    | EXAMINER            |                  |  |
| P.O. BOX 3188                  |                             | NGUYEN, HUY TRAM     |                     |                  |  |
| WEST PALM BEACH, FL 33402-3188 |                             | 50                   | ART UNIT            | PAPER NUMBER     |  |
|                                |                             |                      | 1774                |                  |  |
|                                |                             |                      |                     |                  |  |
|                                |                             |                      | NOTIFICATION DATE   | DELIVERY MODE    |  |
|                                |                             |                      | 01/25/2011          | ELECTRONIC       |  |

# Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

ip@akerman.com

|  | Application No.  | Applicant(s)   |        |
|--|--|--|--------|
|  | 10/541,431   | FILIPPI ET AL.   |        |
| Office Action Summary  | Examiner   | Art Unit   |        |
|  | HUY-TRAM NGUYEN  | 1774   |        |
| The MAILING DATE of this communication a<br>Period for Reply   | ppears on the cover sheet wi   | h the correspondence address   | ;      |
| A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REF WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING  - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.  - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory perions are reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by state Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the may earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).   | DATE OF THIS COMMUNIC<br>1.136(a). In no event, however, may a re-<br>od will apply and will expire SIX (6) MON<br>ute, cause the application to become AB | CATION.  Sply be timely filed  IHS from the mailing date of this communication  ANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). |        |
| Status   |  |  |        |
| 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>03</u> 2a) ☐ This action is <b>FINAL</b> . 2b) ☐ The solution of the condition of the condition of the closed in accordance with the practice under the condition of t | nis action is non-final.<br>vance except for formal matte  | ·  | its is |
| Disposition of Claims  |  |  |        |
| <ul> <li>4) ☐ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application 4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withd</li> <li>5) ☐ Claim(s) 7 is/are allowed.</li> <li>6) ☐ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.</li> <li>7) ☐ Claim(s) is/are objected to.</li> <li>8) ☐ Claim(s) are subject to restriction and</li> </ul>   | rawn from consideration.   |  |        |
| Application Papers   |  |  |        |
| 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Exami 10) ☑ The drawing(s) filed on 05 July 2005 is/are:  Applicant may not request that any objection to the Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction.  11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the   | a) accepted or b) object<br>ne drawing(s) be held in abeyand<br>ection is required if the drawing(   | ce. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).<br>s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.1   | , ,    |
| Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119   |  |  |        |
| 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign a) All b) Some * c) None of:  1. Certified copies of the priority docume 2. Certified copies of the priority docume 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority docume application from the International Bure * See the attached detailed Office action for a li  | ents have been received.<br>ents have been received in Apriority documents have been<br>eau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  | oplication No received in this National Stage  | Э      |
| Attachment(s)  | _  |  |        |
| <ol> <li>Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)</li> <li>Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)</li> <li>Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)         <ul> <li>Paper No(s)/Mail Date</li> </ul> </li> </ol>   | Paper No(s   | ummary (PTO-413)<br>)/Mail Date<br>formal Patent Application<br>   |        |

Application/Control Number: 10/541,431 Page 2

Art Unit: 1774

### **DETAILED ACTION**

#### Terminal Disclaimer

1. The terminal disclaimer does not comply with 37 CFR 1.32(c)(3) because there are more than 10 practitioners listed in the OATH.

## Double Patenting

2. The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. A nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting rejection is appropriate where the conflicting claims are not identical, but at least one examined application claim is not patentably distinct from the reference claim(s) because the examined application claim is either anticipated by, or would have been obvious over, the reference claim(s). See, e.g., *In re Berg*, 140 F.3d 1428, 46 USPQ2d 1226 (Fed. Cir. 1998); *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) or 1.321(d) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent either is shown to be commonly owned with this application, or claims an invention made as a result of activities undertaken within the scope of a joint research agreement.

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

3. Claims 1, 2, 3, and 4 are provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 1 of copending Application No. 11/572,403. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are

not patentably distinct from each other because Claim 1 of the application No. 11/572,403 comprises all the limitations of the present claims 1, 2, 3 and 4.

This is a <u>provisional</u> obviousness-type double patenting rejection because the conflicting claims have not in fact been patented.

4. Claim 5 and 6 are provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 2 of copending Application No. 11/572,403. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because Claim 2 of the application No. 11/572,403 comprises all the limitations of the present claims 5 and 6.

This is a <u>provisional</u> obviousness-type double patenting rejection because the conflicting claims have not in fact been patented.

# Allowable Subject Matter

- 1. Claim 7 is allowed.
- 2. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:
- 3. Regarding Claim 7, the closest prior art, **Foster et al.** (**US Patent No. 4,976,928**) discloses the claimed apparatus and process except for the reactor of Foster et al. is adiabatic and thus cannot operate in pseudo-isothermal conditions. Another prior art, **Koves** (**US Patent No. 5,405,586**) discloses the claimed apparatus and process except for the isothermal reactor of Koves uses alternate interleaved layers of plate heat exchange elements and reactant channels containing catalyst bed (**Figure**)

2) and there is only one radial reaction zone while the claimed apparatus and process recite a radial reaction zone comprising a respective catalyst bed and a plurality of heat exchangers placed in said respective catalytic bed and comprises two reaction zones.

#### Conclusion

4. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to HUY-TRAM NGUYEN whose telephone number is (571)270-3167. The examiner can normally be reached on MON- THURS: 6:30 AM - 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Walter Griffin can be reached on 571-272-1447. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Application/Control Number: 10/541,431 Page 5

Art Unit: 1774

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Huy-Tram Nguyen/ Examiner, Art Unit 1774

/Walter D. Griffin/ Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1774